

Michael F. Easley  
Governor



State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor

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**GOV. EASLEY MEETS WITH SIEMENS-WESTINGHOUSE AWARD WINNERS**  
*Three North Carolina students win top prizes in science competition*

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley today met with Yueqi “Lucie” Guo and Xianlin Li, top group prize award winners, and Bhaskar Mookerji, fifth place individual award winner, of the Siemens-Westinghouse Competition in Math, Science and Technology and presented them with the Governor’s Student Excellence Award. All are high school seniors at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics.

“These students have made remarkable contributions to the fields of science and genetics at such a young age,” said Easley. “They are among the best and the brightest high school students in the country and North Carolina is proud of their achievements.”

Easley congratulated Guo, of Chapel Hill, and Li, of Cary, for their original research discovery of a tumor suppressor gene, which can be used for the early detection of breast cancer. Guo and Li each won a \$50,000 scholarship. Easley also praised Mookerji, of Charlotte, who created and characterized new chemical compounds of zinc and discovered a potential model of an enzyme used in the production of DNA nucleic acids. Mookerji won a \$20,000 scholarship.

The awards were presented Dec. 6, 2004 at the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Washington, D.C.

The Siemens Westinghouse Competition was established by The Siemens Foundation and is administered by the College Board. The Competition includes individual or team categories for research projects in science, mathematics, engineering and/or technology. The competition is the leading science and mathematics research-based competition for high school students in the United States.

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**Photo is attached. Line up from left to right: Xianlin Li, Bhaskar Mookerji, Lucie Guo**